

HALLO HOHENFELS – the 5-Day Newcomers Orientation of the United States Army Garrison – Hohenfels, Bavaria Germany

There are few things more uncomfortable than being lost. To help ensure you don't get lost when you're stationed at Hohenfels, Germany, plan to attend the 5-day newcomer orientation, HALLO HOHENFELS.

So often, being comfortable and enjoying a new duty station has everything to do with your initial experience in learning what your post and surrounding areas have to offer. Take charge and plan on attending!

The program is offered monthly through Army Community Services. On the first day you are welcomed to Hohenfels by the Garrison Commander, LTC Gary Bloomberg and have a thorough introduction to the community. You will also be able to enjoy the award winning dining facility on post.

Tuesday's highlight is a tour of the post. It's easy to drive by a location or know where something is, but to visit it and be introduced to how everything 'works' makes it so much more comfortable when you return.

Wednesday is Army Community Service Day when you will be given the rundown on the many services offered by ACS. The quality of the people and the variety of workshops, events and programs that ACS offers will excite you. Once again, establishing a rapport and familiarity with ACS and its staff makes it so much easier to make use of the organization's capabilities as your tour progresses.

Thursday it's out onto the 'economy'. Before going, a little 'survival' German is offered, as well as a brief introduction to the cultural aspects of Bavaria.

Then it's off to neighboring Parsberg, where we visit a number of shopping areas - including one of the largest 'home' stores you have ever seen. Next, it's on to Josef's Taverne, an outstanding local "Gasthaus" for a wonderful lunch.

Friday we're off to Regensburg, a city of 125,000 about 45 minutes from post. Friday morning features some additional German language review as well as additional insights into the Bavarian lifestyle. Then we hop aboard a train and zip into the 'big' city. You will be thoroughly briefed on using both the train and the

local bus transportation systems so that, once again, you will be experienced and comfortable when you look for opportunities to travel by bus or train on your own or with your family.

The Arcadian Mall is a vibrant modern mall with a huge selection of stores and products that will convince you that, while in Germany, there are very few things you will have to do without. And what's a visit to the mall without having an excellent lunch at one of their fine restaurants?

Hallo Hohenfels provides all of this and so much more. One special benefit of attending Hallo Hohenfels is getting to know others who are in the same position as you: new to this post. We've seen many friendships that have developed at this orientation become deep and long lasting.

And to top it all off, FREE CHILD CARE is available to those who attend. There is an easy-to-follow procedure and a deadline for receiving it, so make sure to register early.

Get off on the right foot at Hohenfels by planning to attend this valuable orientation. And don't be surprised if this turns out to be a favorite duty station.